the main function organised at Delhi (Rajpath) for the Republic Day this year and the preparations made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): The arrangements in connection with the Republic Day Parade in Delhi are made by the concerned Central Ministries and Departments, State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, Central Public Sector Undertakings, local bodies and other agencies. As the expenditure on various items, borne by the concerned agencies, is not collected and exhibited under one head, it is not possible to assess the total expenditure.

[*English*]

Capital Inflow from NRIs

3859. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps for more capital inflow from the Non-Resident Indians and to generate momentum for development of Indian economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The Government have announced in October, 1991 a liberalised investment policy; NRIs can now invest upto 100% equity in 34 high priority industries, will full benefits of repatriation. Till now RBI have approved 7 cases involving an investment of Rs. 290 lakhs. Besides, they can also invest upto 100% on non-repatriation basis in housing development, real estate development and infrastructure such as construction of roads and bridges. The upper limit on portfolio investment has also been raised from 5% to 24%, with the ceiling for individual NRI remaining at 1%.

Export of Surplus Goods

3860. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantum of Surplus agricultural products and industrial goods available in the country at present;

(b) whether any efforts are being made to export these Surplus goods; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) It is difficult to precisely estimate the quantum of surplus agriculture products and industrial goods available in the country at present as it depends on a large number of factors like domestic production, domestic demand, competitiveness in international markets in terms of quality and prices, global production and demand, etc.

(b) The endeavour of the Government is to encourage generation of surplus for export and provide environment conducive for export of the same.

(c) Several changes in trade policy were introduced in July/August, 1991, aimed at strengthening export incentives, eliminating a substantial volume of import licensing and optimal import compression. Barring essential imports of sensitive items like POL fertilizers etc. all other imports of raw materials and components were linked to export performance. REP licences were replaced by Exim-scrips. The advance licences as an instrument of export promotion has been strengthened, by reducing discretionary controls and delays. The procedure for import of capital good has been strengthened. The

EPZ and 100% EOU Schemes have been revamped. A number of export and import items have been decanalized. Exporters have been allowed to open foreign currency accounts in approved banks and to raise external credits, pay for export related imports from such accounts and credit export proceeds to such accounts. These steps have been further strengthened by the partial convertibility of Rupee and reduction in import tariff rates. Besides the Government has taken other steps which include reducing controls through licensing, simplification of procedures for export, activisation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussions with select countries, interaction with national organisations of Trade and Industry, etc.

Commercial Loans

3861. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of arrears of commercial loans given by the nationalised banks and other financial institutions to companies/individuals during the year 1991–92, bankwise;

(b) the details of such companies/individuals who have to repay loans of more than rupees five crores; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The Reserve Bank of India(RBI) have reported that information on arrears of commercial loans given during 1991–92 as also the details of Companies/individuals that have arrears of more than Rs. 5 crores is not compiled by them. However the information on total balance outstanding in respect of Public Sector Banks to borrowers enjoying working capital limits of Rs. 10 crore or more as on 27th Sept., 1991 stood at Rs. 20074.5 crores. According to the forms of Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account prescribed in the Third Schedule of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, which all banks are required to follow, and in accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers, the banks are given statutory protection from disclosing the quantum of bad and doubtful debts as well as the sticky advances for which provision is made to the satisfaction of their statutory auditors.

(b) In accordance with the provisions of statutues governing public sector banks and financial institutions and also the provisions of Public Financial Institutions (Obligation as to Fidelity and Secrecy) Act, 1983 and practices and usages customary amongst bankers, banks and financial institutions cannot divulge information relating to their individual constituents.

(c) The possibility of certain loans going bad is inherent banking operations. However, banks do take measures for monitoring loans and recover overdue loans. This includes post disbursement supervision and follow up, reporting systems and periodical reviews. Public Sector banks have also instituted a system of classification of loans into certain defined categories according to the health of advance at a given point of time for the purpose of their effective monitoring and follow up. Whenever conduct of an individual account reveals irregularies, steps are taken to regularies the advances and, if they fail, loans are recalled and various measures taken to recover the dues including resorting to legal proceedings against the borrowers, as well as the guarantors, if any.